

REMARKS

The present application includes claims 22-23 and 35-44. Claims 42-44 are new. Claims 22-23 were amended. The amendments and the new claims find support at least on pages 20-22 of the present application.

Claims 22 and 36-40 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US patent 6,079,621 to Vardanyan et al.

Claim 23 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over US patent 6,079,621 to Vardanyan et al. in view of PCT publication WO 94/17498 to Laboton et al.

Claim 41 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over US patent 6,079,621 to Vardanyan et al. in view of US patent 6,081,782 to Rabin.

Claim 22 was amended to require an audio output device and additionally to require that the data processing device is adapted to transmit a processing result through the audio output device as a digital signal.

Vardanyan does not describe an audio output device. Laboton describes an alarm which provides warnings that remind the user of the option to erase information from the card (page 3, lines 30-33, page 4, lines 5-9 and page 9, lines 24-32). Neither of Vardanyan and Laboton teaches or suggests transmitting a processing result, let alone as a digital signal. It is noted that Vardanyan uses the processing result to control access to the card and does not notify the result in an audio signal.

The dependent claims are allowable at least by virtue of their parent claim.

In view of the above remarks, applicant submits that the claims are patentable over the prior art. Allowance of the application is respectfully awaited. If, however, the Examiner is not convinced and the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conversation may forward the present application toward allowance, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner call the undersigned at 1 (877) 428-5468. Please note that this is a direct *toll free* number in the US that is answered in the undersigned's Israel office. Israel is 7 hours ahead of Washington.

Respectfully submitted,
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